



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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DAVID E. JANSSEN
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November 15, 2006

To: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe

From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

**ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO ENTER INTO SOLE SOURCE
NEGOTIATIONS WITH NON-PROFIT INDUSTRIES, INC. d/b/a SOCIALSERVE.COM
FOR AN INTERNET-BASED HOUSING DATABASE**

This is to advise you that my Office intends to enter into sole source negotiations for an Internet-based housing database for Los Angeles County with Non-Profit Industries, Inc. d/b/a Socialserve.com. The proposed agreement will establish a public-access website providing comprehensive listings of subsidized and non-subsidized affordable rental housing vacancies throughout the County. In addition, a restricted-access site will be established to provide approved agencies, organizations, cities, and County staff who work with the homeless and special needs populations with information regarding emergency and transitional housing shelters.

Background

On April 4, 2006, your Board approved the Homeless Prevention Initiative (HPI) which includes a key recommendation that endorses the concept of establishing an Internet-based housing database. Both sites will be developed, hosted, and maintained by Socialserve.com, with management oversight by the CAO, the Community Development Commission (CDC), and an advisory group of stakeholders and experts in affordable, special needs, transitional, and homeless housing.

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Justification

There is a scarcity of providers that meet the requirements and criteria providing this service. Socialserve.com is a self-sustaining Not-For-Profit 501 (c) (3), with a six-year track record of serving the affordable housing market. No other housing database service with comparable expertise, experience, flexibility, and cost effectiveness is available. CDC has researched and experienced other housing web-based listing services, but found them to be too expensive, rigid in design, and overlapping and deficient in meeting real time needs for locating available housing units.

If you have any questions, please contact Lari Sheehan of my staff at (213) 893-2477 or lsheehan@cao.lacounty.gov.

DEJ:LS
FF:LR:os

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Chief Information Officer
Executive Director of the Community Development Commission